

What is claimed is:

1 1. A method of controlling a dishwasher, comprising steps of:
2 supplying water to a washtub for a first predetermined time period;
3 driving a wash motor when the first predetermined time period has elapsed;
4 determining an electrical characteristic of said driven wash motor;
5 comparing a value indicative of the determined electrical characteristic with a
6 predetermined value indicative of a desired electrical characteristic of said wash motor; and
7 discontinuing said water supplying step if the determined electrical characteristic
8 value is not less than the predetermined value for a second predetermined time period.

1 2. The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a step of stopping said
2 wash motor and simultaneously displaying a water supply error message if the determined
3 electrical characteristic value fails to reach the predetermined value before a lapse of a third
4 predetermined time period.

1 3. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the determined electrical
2 characteristic is detected by current detection means.

1 4. A dishwasher comprising:
2 a washtub for holding tableware;
3 a wash motor, installed in said washtub, for actuating a wash pump;
4 a detector for detecting an electrical characteristic of said wash motor;
5 a controller, coupled to said wash motor, for outputting a valve control signal based

- 6 on the detected electrical characteristic of said wash motor; and
- 7 a solenoid valve for controlling a water supply to said washtub based on the valve
- 8 control signal output from said controller.